

020732.173.645 (7495)

REMARKS**Request for Rejoinder Reminder**

Applicant respectfully requests rejoinder of method claims 18-25 and 28-33 upon allowance of the product claims 1-5, 7-13, 27, and 34.¹ Towards that end, withdrawn method claims 18, 20-23 and 25 have been amended in a manner consistent with the pending product claims.

Correction of the Office Action Summary Sheet

A review of the Office Action Summary sheet accompanying the April 7, 2006 Office Action reveals an error in the claims that have been "withdrawn from consideration." Claim 27 depends directly from claim 1, and as such, depends from elected subject matter. Accordingly, claim 27 should not be withdrawn from consideration. Applicant requests the Examiner acknowledge same.

Allowable Subject Matter

In the April 7, 2006 Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 1-5 and 7-13 are allowable. Applicant acknowledges same.

Amendments to the Claims

Support for the amendment to claim 23 can be found in the instant application at paragraph [0019].
Support for new claim 28 can also be found in the instant application at paragraph [0019].

Support for new claims 29 and 32 can be found in original claim 7.

Support for new claims 31 and 34 can be found in the instant application at paragraphs [0020] and [0021].

Support for new claim 33 can be found in original claim 17.

No new matter has been added herein.

¹ Rejoinder was previously requested in the response to the September 2, 2005 Office Action filed on September 28, 2005 and in the response to the October 17, 2005 Office Action filed on January 17, 2006.

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Rejections of Claims

In the April 7, 2006 Office Action,

claims 16 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as being indefinite;

claims 14 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Prasad (U.S. Patent No. 6,913,517); and

claims 14-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Leiner et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,395,528).

Claims 14-17 have been cancelled herein thereby obviating these rejections.

Fees Payable

One (1) independent and four (4) dependent claims have been cancelled and seven (7) dependent claims have been added herein. Thus, no claims fee is due at this time ($(7 \times \$50) - [(1 \times \$200) + (4 \times \$50)] < 0$).

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is also hereby authorized to charge any additional amount due for entry of this amendment, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 13-4365 of Moore & Van Allen PLLC.

Conclusion

Based on the foregoing, claims 1-5, 7-13, 27, and 34 are in form and condition for allowance. If any additional issues remain, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney at (919) 419-9350 to discuss same.

Respectfully submitted

Date: June 5, 2006

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